

their success in helping to feed the world while protecting our environment. These are truly remarkable legacies.●

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS H. WARDLEIGH

● Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I pay tribute to Mr. Thomas H. Wardleigh, Alaskan aviation legend, who left us for new horizons on July 7, 2004, following a long battle with cancer.

A World War II Navy veteran, Tom moved to Alaska in 1951 and continued his aviation career as a mechanic with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, keeping its fleet of Grumman aircraft in operation for decades. He completed his federal service at the Federal Aviation Administration. He then devoted the rest of his life to promoting safety enhancements for Alaskan aviation. In 1984 he became chairman of the Alaskan Aviation Safety Foundation and produced more than 1,000 weekly episodes of a TV show called "Hangar Flying" which was broadcast all over Alaska. Because of the value of the instruction, the national organization, Aircraft Owner and Pilots Association, recently gave a grant to the University of Alaska Archives to transfer all of the programs to DVD so that future aviators will be able to learn from his timeless wisdom.

Tom Wardleigh logged over 33,000 flight hours in numerous types of aircraft. He was in great demand as an advanced flight instructor, and was one of the few multiengine sea plane instructors. Many, many Alaskan pilots were Tom's students over the years.

Although he was a tenacious fighter, Wardleigh was soft spoken, friendly, and always a gentleman, perhaps some reasons he was such a successful advocate for aviation safety enhancement, whether in education or technology. He was most recently instrumental in the development of the FAA Capstone Project which has been credited as a significant factor in lowering the accident rate in rural Alaska. While his work was primarily in Alaska, Tom participated in forums and projects all over the United States as well as in other countries whose aviation leaders often came to Alaska to personally seek Tom's advice on developing their safety programs.

The list of commendations Tom had received over the years is long, and includes AOPA's Laurence P. Sharples' national award in 1994 for his lifetime of service. Last year, FAA Administrator Marion Blakey personally recognized Tom with one of the agency's most significant honors in U.S. civil aviation, the Distinguished Service Award—this in addition to having previously bestowed on him the Charles Taylor Master Mechanic and the Wright Brothers' Master Pilot Awards.

While Tom Wardleigh may have taken his last flight, pilots and passengers alike will fondly remember

this special aviator as they turn onto Wardleigh Drive at the Anchorage Ted Stevens International Airport.●

NEW JERSEY STATE SOCIETY BIDS FAREWELL TO JOHN AND HELEN PANNULLO

● Mr. CORZINE. Mr. President, I am pleased to take this opportunity to acknowledge the outstanding contributions of John and Helen Pannullo in strengthening the New Jersey State Society. This valuable organization has played a major role in the professional and social lives of so many present and former New Jersey residents who live and work in the National Capital area. Unfortunately, their colleagues and many friends must bid them a fond farewell as they finally retire and move from this area.

John is a former association executive who has represented a number of associations in New Jersey and Washington, DC. Helen is retiring after 31 years of Federal Government service during which she held a variety of management positions in the information technology field and served on the board of Executive Women in Government.

In 1997 John assumed the Presidency of the New Jersey State Society, and Helen became its secretary. Under their expert leadership, the NJSS had a period of unprecedented growth and activity. They created an annual membership directory and quarterly newsletter. They also initiated the participation of the NJSS in 10 to 12 high-profile events each year, including New Jersey Day at the National Cathedral, the Battle of the Beltway to raise funds for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, and the National Book Fest on the Mall. One of the highlights of this period was the 2001 New Jersey inaugural gala attended by more than one thousand NJSS members and their guests.

During their tenure the income of the society has increased ten fold, and the membership has gone from fewer than 100 to nearly 900.

I am sincerely grateful for John and Helen's dedication to the New Jersey State Society and their noteworthy accomplishments on behalf of the citizens, businesses, labor organizations and educational institutions in our State. While we will miss them, I wish them every success and much happiness in this new chapter of their very successful and productive lives.●

TRIBUTE TO THE TOWN OF CHATOM, ALABAMA

● Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I take this opportunity to recognize the town of Chatom in my home state of Alabama. On October 4, 2004, the Town of Chatom will celebrate its 100th birthday. Named the county seat of Washington County in 1907, the town later became the home of the county's first high school. Washington County Hos-

pital and Nursing Home, where an uncle of mine was ably cared for, was founded there in 1952. In 1956, Chatom citizens founded the beautiful Washington County Public Library. Chatom became a regional leader in aviation when Roy Wilcox Airport was established there in 1963. In 1995, the town extended its appeal to additional tourists and golf enthusiasts by opening an eighteen hole golf course. Reflecting the hospitable environment of the town, residents established the Chatom Community Center in 2000. Lake Ellis opened that same year, providing increased avenues for fellowship and leisure to both residents and visitors. Currently, the Town of Chatom encompasses a population of 1,205.

I firmly believe that it is out of the small towns and rural communities of America that there arises the rich values that shape our State and Nation. People know and care for one another. They go to church. They encourage the children of the community. They stand up for truth, justice and common sense. That is the way they were raised and that raising forms the basis for a fierce sense of independence, a respect for the ownership of property, and a love of democracy, where people from the heart of America rule. They love and respect America, they understand the exceptional character of our country, obey her laws, and send their sons and daughters to defend her just national interests. Without the people of Chatom and millions like them, we would cease to bear the stamp, "American".

Chatom has been a commercial and educational center for southwest Alabama for many years. In fact, I recently found a diploma of another uncle, Harry A. Powe, Jr., who came down from Black Creek outside Silas to graduate from Chatom High School in the 1920s.

The rich history and character of Chatom are proof of the leadership potential of Americans intent upon the pursuit of the American dream and the promotion of American ideals. Since its founding on October 4, 1904, the Town of Chatom has been a leader of Washington County, due not only to its expanding educational and economical opportunities but also to the hard work and good hearts of its people. As Chatom prepares to celebrate its centennial, we should pause to look forward to the future achievements of its citizens. I congratulate and commend Chatom for its accomplishments and continued growth. I thank the residents of Chatom for their examples of American ideals and southern hospitality.●

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF JEREMY TODD BOWLING

● Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I pay tribute and congratulate Jeremy Todd Bowling of Manchester, KY on being awarded the Kentucky Farm Bureau